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ANTHROPOLOGIC MISCELLANEA

International School of American Archæology and Ethnology in Mexico.—For the year 1911-12 Professor Franz Boas, of Columbia University in the City of New York, is in charge of the School. Fellows have been appointed as follows: Dr Alden J. Mason by the University of Pennsylvania, Mr William H. Mechling by the Hispanic Society of America, Mr Manuel Gamio and Miss Isabel Ramírez Castañeda by the Mexican Government. Dr Werner von Hirschelmann, fellow of the Prussian Government, left Mexico late in November to take charge of a position to which he was appointed in the Royal Ethnographical Museum at Berlin. The work of the School during the present year is directed particularly toward two problems: the affinities and subdivisions of the Mexican language, and the investigations of the development of cultural types in the valley of Mexico. In preparation of part of the former work Mr Mechling has prepared a detailed map of the distribution of languages in the State of Oaxaca, based on the manuscript vocabularies collected in 1888 by Dr Antonio Peñafiel, which the latter generously placed at the disposal of the School. Based on this work it was possible to locate two apparently strongly divergent dialects of Mexican in the State of Oaxaca, one in Tuxtepec on the Rio Papaloapam and one in Pochutla near Puerto Angel. Further inquiry furnished corroborative evidence, and Mr Mechling was intrusted with the investigation of the dialect of Tuxtepec and its relations to neighboring Mexican dialects. In a population of about 7,000, nearly one hundred individuals are found who still use this dialect, more or less, and it is hoped that enough may be gathered, notwithstanding a strong infusion of Spanish words, to determine its characteristics.

Dr Mason has been intrusted with an investigation of the dialect of the Tepecano of northern Jalisco, which proves to be closely akin to Pima. The journey to the Tepecano was undertaken from Guadalajara. Professor Boas, who took part in the trip, separated from Dr Mason at San Juan de Teul, where he stayed to find, if possible, traces of the old language of the Teules. Five individuals were found who remembered a small number of words and phrases, almost all of which proved to be Mexican. However, in the vocabulary a few words were found related to Tepecano, so that perhaps the old statement of the Franciscan friars

who claimed that the Teules spoke Tepecano, which was, however, in process of being superseded by the Mexican, may be considered as corroborated.

Linguistic work is also carried on by Miss Ramírez, who is collecting modern texts and rituals from some of the villages of the valley of Mexico.

Search among the ruins of the Cerro de Teul revealed many broken pieces of pottery of a type akin to Tarascan earthenware, but also some special forms, the most remarkable of which is a rectangular, slate-like object, covered on one side, except a narrow frame, with hachure designs, evidently made with a comb-like instrument. In the overhanging cliffs of the mesa, burials were found, with skeletons with deformed skulls. Entire skeletons were in a recumbent position with knees drawn up to the chin and arms folded over the chest. Mixed in were found many loose bones which suggest the use of the same place for repeated burials. No traces of outer walls were found; nevertheless the evidence of charcoal at various depths and numerous other remains suggest the use of these recesses as dwellings, which were probably protected by a lean-to of straw or matting, such as may still be seen in use in the caves and cliff recesses of this region. Quite a number of such recesses are inhabited in the same manner in the region of Mezquital del Oro, Zacatecas.

In the latter place a burial site was discovered on a low mesa which yielded pottery of Tarascan type. It may therefore be said that this type prevailed over the whole district, as far north as Zacatecas.

In the valley of Mezquital del Oro remains are very sparse, but on a few of the high mesas, which are difficult of access, ruins of villages were found. Professor Boas examined particularly the Mesa de los Antiguos, on which many structures were found, apparently similar in type to those of Teul and of the Bolaños region as described by Dr Hrdlička.

The gold mine of Mezquital del Oro yields many stone hammers that were used with two hands and indicate an early exploitation of the mine, although presumably belonging to the Spanish period.

In the valley of Mexico, Mr Gamio undertook a careful investigation of a small area near Azcapotzalco, a district to which Mr W. Niven first drew attention. From here were obtained many pieces of pottery and human remains, partly of the type of the valley of Mexico, partly of the special type of San Juan Teotihuacan, partly of other types not yet identified. The excavations, so far as they have been carried on, show that the valley type occurs only in superficial mounds. Under these lies a layer of decomposed tufa which contains some pottery of the

Teotihuacan type. Under these follow river gravels and sands, and then a very thick subaerial deposit in which, just under the river gravels, adobe and stone walls may be observed. Among these occur a great number of heads of the Teotihuacan type, and pottery of similar type. The stratum is about twenty-five feet thick, and it remains to be seen whether other types will be found farther down. The Teotihuacan types seem to occur in very excellent technique and very roughly made in the same layers.

Some Notable Works on South American Archeology.—Archeology is fortunate in its attraction for men, who, from choice or force of circumstances, have worked out important problems alone or through private initiative. To such sources we owe some of the most notable recent publications on the archeology of South America.

In *The Incas of Peru*¹ (E. P. Dutton and Co., New York) Sir Clements R. Markham gives some of the choicest fruits of more than fifty years' study and travel in which he has endeavored to master all the original authorities on Inca history and civilization. The result is a series of essays of absorbing interest to the general reader and at the same time indispensable to the serious historical student. Among sources recently brought to light he mentions *Nueva Coronica y Buen Gobierno*, by Don Felipe Huaman Poma de Ayala. This quarto of 1179 pages was found in the Royal Library at Copenhagen by Dr Pietschmann, who will soon publish what Sir Clements calls "the most remarkable as well as the most interesting production of native genius that has come down to our time."

A short chapter is devoted to the megalithic age; the famous monolithic sculptured doorway at Tiahuanacu, the cyclopean building in the Calle del Triunfo in Cuzco, and the stone of Chavin de Huantar, attract the author's attention but do not detain him long. He believes in the great antiquity of the megalithic civilization which probably held sway over the Andean regions from an unknown distance south of Tucuman to Chachapoyas, with Tiahuanacu as the center. The author is not accurate in his description of the sculptured figures on the Puerta del Sol, Tiahuanacu, a portion of which is reproduced in figure 19. He discusses in turn the rise of the Incas, their empire, religion, calendar, festivals, language and literature, condition of the people, the coast valleys, the Chimu, the Chincha confederacy, and finally the cataclysm. The list of kings given in the Appendix is from Montesinos, who it seems obtained

¹ For a fuller review, by Dr W. C. Farabee, see *American Anthropologist*, n. s., vol. 13, no. 3, July-Sept., 1911.

his information from Blas Valera without giving the latter credit. The Appendix also includes extensive notes on the names Quichua and Aymara, architecture and arts of the Incas, the Inca drama of Ollantay, and Inca folklore.

While much attention has been paid to Peru on the south and Mexico and Central America on the north, the field between has until recently

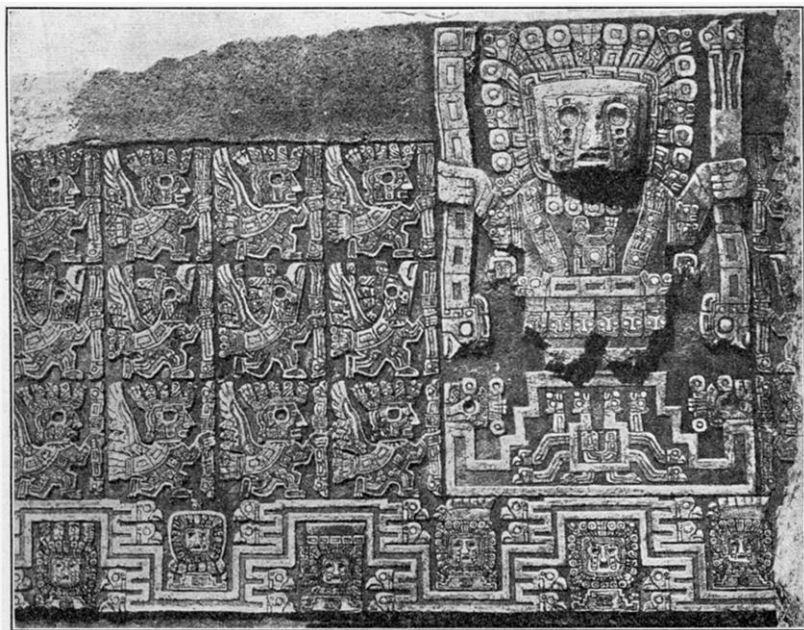


FIG. 19.—Portion of the sculptured figures on the Puerto del Sol, Tiahuanacu, Peru, worked up by Miss Adela C. Breton from a photograph in the Bolivian Government's Album.

received scant notice. Thanks to Mr George G. Heye, who financed the expeditions, and to Prof. Marshall H. Saville, who directed them, the archeological world now has two splendid volumes by Professor Saville: *Contributions to South American Archeology, Antiquities of Manabi, Ecuador* (Irving Press, N. Y.), the second volume appearing in 1910. Professor Saville distinguishes nine centers of ancient culture, five in Ecuador and four in Colombia, these of course in addition to the intrusive Inca culture. The two volumes,¹ as the title indicates, are confined to

¹ The first volume was reviewed for this journal (x, 122, 1908) by Prof. W. H. Holmes, who also reproduced some of the more important illustrations.

one Ecuadorean province. In Manabi, an arid region extending from the equator to Guayaquil, the author finds a civilization but little affected by Incasic influence. Stone seats form a special feature of Manabian archeology. They are found in great numbers, but only on Cerro de Hojas and several neighboring hills within an area not more than twenty miles in diameter. So far as Cerro de Hojas is concerned the seats were found only in the rooms of the ruined houses or *corrales*. The author enumerates about a dozen types of stone seats: he believes them to have been ceremonial. Of perhaps even greater significance are the stone bas-reliefs found principally on Cerro Jaboncillo and likewise in the *corrales*. The author divides these sculptured slabs into nine groups. The first five groups represent human female figures; in the sixth and seventh the sex is doubtful; the eighth is a complex problematic stylistic life form; and the ninth is purely diagrammatic. Under ceramics considerable space is given to figurines, human heads, whistles, and spindle whorls. The latter are decorated with incised patterns but do not compare in workmanship with the finer whorls from Colombia and the valley of Mexico. Although hunting for golden treasure was not the object of the expedition, the author admits being disappointed in the number and value of metal objects found. Each volume has an Appendix with long extracts from early Spanish authors, which with the comprehensive bibliography in the first volume brings the reader into close touch with the anthropology of Ecuador.

GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY.

Dr Paul Topinard, the noted French anthropologist, died at Paris on December 20, 1911. Topinard was born at l'Isle-Adam (Seine-et-Oise), November 4, 1830, and began his studies at the Collège Ste-Barbe in Paris, but soon was compelled to interrupt them to accompany his father to the state of New York, where the latter had extensive estates, near which, at Delhi, young Topinard was sent to school. Later he went to Philadelphia, where his time was divided between the public schools and the Augustins, and returning to New York he entered a commercial school, remaining two years. But business pursuits were not to Topinard's liking. He returned to Paris in 1848; in 1853 he was an interne of the hospitals of Paris, and became a doctor of medicine in 1860. Through the influence of Paul Broca, Topinard relinquished his practice and on the creation of the anthropological laboratory at the École des Hautes-Études, was appointed adjunct director. When the *Revue d'Anthropologie* was founded by Broca in 1872, Topinard became his collaborator, and on

the opening of the École d'Anthropologie in 1876, under Broca's direction, Topinard was appointed professor, with Bertillon, Hovelacque, Mortillet, and others, thus becoming one of the advance guard who created and continued that scientific and philosophic movement which arose with the founding of the Société d'Anthropologie. In the same year, Topinard's book, *L' Anthropologie*, appeared, and met with such remarkable success that it passed through many editions and was translated into several languages. On Broca's death in 1880, Topinard was unanimously elected general secretary of the Société d'Anthropologie. His writings on the



PAUL TOPINARD—1830-1911

subject of anthropology alone are too numerous to mention here, but attention should be directed to his masterpiece, *Traité d'Anthropologie*, published in 1885, his *Éléments d'Anthropologie générale*, and *L'Homme dans la Nature*. Topinard was a zealous student of all branches of anthropology, and endeared himself to his fellows by his amiability and his generosity in parting with his store of knowledge gathered during many active years.

Augustus Henry Keane.—The following notice of the life and work of Dr A. H. Keane of London, by Sir Edward Brabrook, is extracted

from *Man* for April, 1912. Dr Keane was born in Cork, June 1, 1833, and died February 3, 1912.

"The science of ethnology has lost a devoted student by the death of Dr Keane. For it he made great sacrifices in early life, to it he devoted high intellectual qualities, a rare linguistic faculty, and untiring industry. He began to take part in the meetings of the Anthropological Institute in 1879, in which year he contributed a monograph on the relations of the Indo-Chinese and inter-Oceanic races and languages, and discussed a paper on a similar subject by Colonel Yule. He was an eloquent speaker, and joined in our discussions with much effect. At the anniversary meeting in January 1880 he was elected a member of the council. In 1883 he prepared at the invitation of that body and read to a special meeting of the Institute a paper on the Botocudos, two males and three females of that people being present. In the same year he was appointed Professor of Hindustani at University College. In 1884 he read to the Institute a paper on the ethnology of the Egyptian Sudan, and in 1885 one on the Lapps, a group of whom were exhibited on the occasion. At the anniversary in January 1886 he was elected a vice-president of the Institute, a distinction which he highly valued, though the vice-presidents were not frequently called upon for their services while Sir Francis Galton was president. Professor Keane's term of office expired at the anniversary of January 1890. After that time he frequently contributed to the journal of the Institute and to *Man* critical reviews of new anthropological works. In 1896 the second edition of his standard treatise on ethnology was issued from the Cambridge University Press. In it he discussed separately the fundamental ethnical problems and the primary ethnical groups. Under the first head were included the physical and mental evolution of man, the antiquity of man, and the specific unity and varietal diversity of man. Under the second head he laid down a division of man into four primary groups, which he designated *Homo Æthiopicus*, *Mongolicus*, *Americanus*, and *Caucasicus*. This was followed in 1899 by *Man, Past and Present*, in which the origin and interrelation of those groups are discussed in further detail. In 1900 he published a timely and enlightening work on *The Boer States: Land and People*. His contributions to encyclopedias and guides and other geographical works are too numerous to mention. His eminent services to science and literature procured for him the corresponding membership of the Anthropological Societies of Italy and of Washington, the degree of LL.D., and the grant [in 1897] of a pension on the civil list."

The So-called "Moors" of Delaware.—The *Museum Journal* of the University of Pennsylvania notes that Dr Speck and Mr Wallis of the University have been conducting investigations among the so-called "Moors" of Indian river, Sussex county, Delaware, during which they have collected a body of information capable of being developed into an instructive record of a community made up of the amalgamation of three distinct races—white Europeans, African Negroes, and Nanticoke Indians. The proportion in which these three enter into the mixture cannot be determined with accuracy.

The descendants form today an exclusive community of about 700 souls on Indian river with a smaller community of about 300 at Cheswold, Kent county, Delaware. Each community maintains a strong consciousness that preserves its identity and keeps the families of which it is composed from intermarrying with either the whites or the negroes. Physically, the members of these communities are very well formed, their mental qualities are good, and they are well-to-do.

To what extent the exclusiveness of these communities is due to Indian ancestry it is impossible to say, but Dr Speck thinks that this feeling may be due to a dominating Indian tradition. They possess an abundance of folklore and superstitions, but whether these will be found to present characteristics which will associate them with either the Indian or the Negro it is not now possible to say. Magic and witchcraft are extensively practised and a belief in the specific medical virtues of various plants forms a body of local information that makes a suitable subject for further study.

Such a community as that on Indian river obviously offers interesting material for the study of one of the far-reaching aspects of modern anthropological research, namely the effects produced by race amalgamation. Here we have an example of a community which derives its origin from three races, and which is completely self-sustained, which rests its claim to exclusiveness on a feeling of social superiority, and which presents all the essential marks of a separate ethnic and social group.

The study of this community has its bearing on such fundamental human phenomena as physical variation, tribal prerogative, clan consciousness, race sensibility, and the sociological significance of exclusive property in folklore and belief.

Dr Speck finds that the esoteric tendency which has set up barriers to protect the group against the action of outside influence is not inconsistent with a breadth of view which provides schools of a high standard and a liberal provision for the education of the youth. The moral tone

of the community is approved by all observers and the general discipline is clearly of a high order.

Marking the Oregon Trail.—The legislature of Nebraska has made appropriation for the marking of that part of the old Oregon Trail within the limits of the state, and the work will be commenced early in this year under the auspices of the Oregon Trail Memorial Commission, representing jointly the state authority, the Nebraska Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Nebraska State Historical Society. The active officers are Mr Robert Harvey, state surveyor; Mrs Lottie Gove Norton, state regent Daughters of the American Revolution; and Mr Clarence S. Paine, secretary of the State Historical Society. The local railroads have volunteered to assist in the work.

The Oregon Trail, beginning first at Independence, and later from Westport (Kansas City), Mo., went up the North Platte, across the Rocky mountains, and down Snake river, and constituted the principal highway to the Columbia region, as the Santa Fé Trail was the road to New Mexico, from about 1830 down to the era of the Union Pacific railroad. It gave title to one of Parkman's most famous works.

It is to be regretted that the Commission has selected the name and effigy of Marcus Whitman for representation on its official badge, thus tending to bolster up an exploded myth. Whitman's part in the Oregon controversy is ignored by Bancroft, and denied by Chittenden and other critical historians, while the fictitious character of the story was thoroughly demonstrated by Professor Bourne of Yale University more than ten years ago. It is not even proven that Whitman was ever in the City of Washington, and the famous ride around which the story centers was made over the Santa Fé Trail. Wyeth, Sublette, Jason Lee, Frémont, DeSmet, Carson, Parkman, Bridger, any one of these would have been a more appropriate selection, about whose connection with the Oregon Trail there is no question.

JAMES MOONEY.

All-Slav Congress.—The first All-Slav Congress and Exposition of Social Medicine and Hygiene will be held in St Petersburg during the week commencing May 28, 1912.¹ There will be five sections, the first of which, under the presidency of V. O. Gubert, will deal with medicine and hygiene of the masses; the second (J. F. Zemackij, president) with

¹As this journal goes to press, it is learned that the Congress, which promises to be of unusual importance, is postponed until 1913 in order to enable a more thorough participation of some of the Slavs outside of Russia.

gymnastics and exercises tending toward the better development of the body; the third (president, M. M. Kovalevskij), with social ethics; the fourth (president, A. V. Vasiljev), with the development and health of children; and the fifth (president, D. O. Ott), with women.

In detail, Section 1 will deal with the regulation of medical aid; hygiene of houses and cities; housing problems; nourishment, with prices of food; social and hygienic protection of workingmen; control of prevalent diseases; protection of the mental health of the population, medical education and activities; and cure establishments, springs, etc., with balneotherapy.

Section 2 comprises physical exercises; the Sokols (the great Slav gymnastic organization); athletic contests and sports; "touristics"; and bathing, with swimming.

Section 3 deals with alcoholic abuses; dissipation and specific diseases; suicide; and crime.

Section 4 extends to development of the child; health in infancy; infant mortality; training of the child before school age; school hygiene; and mental development of the child.

Section 5 includes everything relating to the functions and health of women.

The Linden Museum at Stuttgart.—Thanks to the untiring efforts of the late Count Karl von Linden, the city of Stuttgart, Germany, has a geographical and ethnological museum which is remarkable for the extent and character of its collections. Originally intended as a museum of a rather commercial character, to acquaint Germans with the customs and products of foreign countries, the institution has broadened considerably and become more scientific in character. Von Linden recognized that the time was not far distant when most of the savage peoples of the world would cease to follow the ways of their ancestors, and that, under the influence of civilization many an old art and handicraft would be forever lost. Thanks to his personal efforts, he rapidly collected a large number of costumes, carvings, weapons, of savage workmanship, and a vast amount of other exceedingly valuable ethnographic material. So rapidly did this collection grow that in 1910 it was necessary to erect a special building in Stuttgart, which in dimensions and beauty of architecture compares favorably with the largest museums of the kind in the world. The new museum was officially opened on May 28, 1911. Unfortunately, von Linden did not live to witness that event. He died January 15, 1910. In the von Linden collections will be found specimens

from every country in the world. For the purpose of completing the imperfect collections, the museum is prepared to exchange its duplicates for objects which it does not already possess. Thus, while the American Indian of the Far West is well represented, the museum feels the need of specimens from northwestern Canada, Mexico, Central America, and South America. Collectors and museum directors who desire to enter into exchange relations with the Linden Museum may address the director of the Museum für Länder- u. Völkerkunde (Linden Museum), Stuttgart, Germany.

Brotherhood of North American Indians.—A bill to incorporate the Brotherhood of North American Indians was introduced in the United States Senate on February 8. The purposes and objects of the corporation shall be "to teach, obtain, and maintain rights, liberties, and justice for all Indians equal to that of any people and inferior to none; to preserve and perpetuate the ancient traditions, arts, and customs of North American Indians; to unify their efforts and interests; to counsel together; to promote and encourage industry and thrift among Indian people; to collect, secure the preservation of, and to publish the records, papers, documents, and traditions of historical value and importance to North American Indians; to mark, by appropriate monuments, places historic and sacred to the American Indian; to impress upon present and future generations of American Indians the importance of united action for the common good; to promote a feeling of friendship, brotherhood, and good citizenship among its members; and to provide for the aged and infirm of the Indian race." The bill provides that the principal office of the Brotherhood shall be in the District of Columbia; that its membership shall consist of two classes, namely, "persons of Indian blood, and honorary members whose qualifications, rights, and obligations shall be prescribed by the constitution and by-laws." The officers are to consist of a "great sachem, as many great chiefs as there are local brotherhoods, great secretary, great assistant secretary, great treasurer, great assistant treasurer, chief registrar, chief assistant registrar, chief chancellor, chief historian, chief chaplain, board of managers, and executive committee." The incorporators belong to the Cayuse, Cherokee, Chipewewa, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Cree, Delaware, Flathead, Kootenai, Nez Percé, Paloos, Oneida, Ojibwa, Pend d'Oreille, Quapaw, Quinaielt, Sioux, Umatilla, Wallawalla, and Yakima tribes.

Museums of the Brooklyn Institute.—In the report of the Museums of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences for the year 1910, recently

published, Mr Stewart Culin, Curator, reports as follows on the operations of the department of ethnology:

"The work of the Department has been practically confined to the reconstruction, decoration, and installation of the Japanese Hall. This has been done with the idea of supplying an appropriate and agreeable background for the collections, and suggesting, at least, the atmosphere of Japan. The Curator has had the valued assistance of a Japanese artist, Mr Genjiro Kataoka, who has criticized the details of the arrangement and color scheme, for which he is chiefly responsible. The two halves of the hall are devoted respectively to civil and military costume. The collections comprise the objects purchased by the Curator in Japan in 1909 with funds contributed by Mr Thomas T. Barr, Mr E. LeGrand Beers, Mr Carll H. DeSilver, Mr Herman Stutzer, and Col. Robert B. Woodward, and an appropriation from the Museum Collection Fund of that year. In addition, there are displayed earlier gifts made by Mr George C. Brackett, Mr DeSilver, and Col. Woodward. Series of objects of several different kinds have been presented by individuals: the arms and armor by Col. Woodward, the costumes by Mr Brackett, the musical instruments by Mr DeSilver, games, religious and ceremonial objects, and illustrations of the graphic arts by Mr Herman Stutzer, and a very interesting collection of objects of metal, stone, and glass from the ancient dolmens by Mr Thomas T. Barr. These gifts have been supplemented with several important loans: a Buddhist household shrine from Mrs T. H. Newberry, and collections of dolls for the girls' festival from Mrs E. LeGrand Beers and Mr Benjamin Smith Lyman."

International Congresses.—The following appointments of delegates to the various international congresses which are to meet in Europe during the present summer have been announced:

Eighteenth International Congress of Americanists, London (May 27–June 1): *By the United States Government and the Smithsonian Institution:* Rev. Charles W. Currier, Miss Alice C. Fletcher, Dr G. B. Gordon, Dr Edgar L. Hewett, Dr A. Hrdlička, Prof. G. G. MacCurdy, Dr Charles Peabody, and Prof. M. H. Saville. *By the American Anthropological Association:* Dr G. G. MacCurdy. *By the Anthropological Society of Washington:* Miss Alice C. Fletcher and Dr A. Hrdlička. *By the American Philosophical Society:* Dr Franz Boas. *By Yale University:* Prof. George G. MacCurdy.

Third International Archeological Congress, Rome (Oct. 9–16): *By the Smithsonian Institution:* A. L. Frothingham.

Fourteenth International Congress of Prehistoric Anthropology and

Archeology, Geneva (first week in September): *By the United States Government and the Smithsonian Institution*: Dr A. Hrdlička, Prof. George G. MacCurdy, Dr Charles Peabody. *By the American Anthropological Association*: Prof. George G. MacCurdy. *By Yale University*: Prof. George Grant MacCurdy.

Peruvian Antiquities.—As a result of the resolution adopted by the board of managers of the Anthropological Society of Washington on March 23, 1911 (see *American Anthropologist*, April-June, 1911, page 317), copies of which were widely circulated in Peru, the President of that country, on August 11 last, issued a proclamation of which the following is a translation:

The President of the Republic, considering that in order to safeguard the national interests it is necessary to modify the Supreme Decree of the 27th of April, 1893, concerning the gathering and study of Peruvian antiquities, orders as follows:

First. Paragraph second of Article Six of the regulations here mentioned is modified in the following manner: All the remains of the Peruvian aborigines belong to the State, which may concede duplicates of the same to those who ask for the privilege, provided always that such parties be well established scientific corporations. Regarding unique objects, permission can be given only to photograph the same. Casts will be permitted only in those cases in which there is no danger of any damage to the specimens.

Second. In every instance in which permission for excavations or studies is given, there will be named a supervisor ("interventor") who will represent the Government and will superintend the work.

Third. The objects secured will be forwarded by the prefects of the departments to the Museum of National History in this capital [Lima].

Fourth. Before the Congress decides upon a law relating to the conservation of antiquities, there is prohibited absolutely all exportation of the same, whatever may be their class and condition, except in the case of duplicates, as before mentioned.

Those who transgress these regulations will lose all the antiquities which they may endeavor to export, and in addition will suffer a fine of from twenty to two hundred Peruvian pounds in gold, to be imposed by the customs houses of the Republic, which are especially charged with the execution of this duty.

A. B. LEGÍA—ANTONIO FLORES.

Excavations at Meroë.—The Liverpool excavations at Meroë, under the direction of Professor Garstang, assisted by Mr Schliephack, are

making great progress. The palace of the Ethiopian kings, near the temple of Amon, proves to contain more than forty chambers and a large court. On the foundation-walls are reliefs of the usual Ethiopian pattern. Three hundred Sudani natives are now employed, with a staff of trained Egyptian diggers, chiefly fellâhîn from Kûft. A light man-tramway, of the kind commonly utilized in excavations elsewhere (e. g., at Abusir and Deir el-Bahari) to facilitate the removal of the excavated material, has been installed, and to this Professor Garstang has added a small aërial cableway. A telegram from Khartûm describing the progress of the work appeared in *The Times* of January 17; from this the above account is partly taken.—*Nature*, London, January 25.

The Spanish Archives.—The following item of interest to students of the early history of the American Indians appears in *The American Historical Review* for January, 1912: "A visit made by the King of Spain last spring to the Archives of the Indies at Seville has resulted in royal orders for concentrating in that repository all documents relating to the history of the former Spanish dominions beyond the seas, which are now to be found in other archival centres, especially Simancas and Madrid. Adequate space will be made by vacating the lower floor of the Casa Lonja, hitherto used for other purposes, and giving over the whole building to the archives. It is expected that the establishment at Seville of a School for American historical studies will follow. Señor Pedro Torres Lanzas, director of the Archives of the Indies, has recently been promoted to the grade of First Inspector of the archival force of Spain."

Chito Hajo, otherwise known as Crazy Snake, died about April 1st near Boley, Oklahoma, and is reported to have been buried at sunset near the scene of his death in Okfuskee county according to the rites of the primitive members of the Creek Nation. Crazy Snake became prominent at the time of the so-called "smoked meat" rebellion in 1909 by the Snake faction of the Creeks at old Hickory Ground near Henryetta, when he was wounded and his house burned by deputy sheriffs. The old chief escaped to the hills in the Osage country, where he remained in hiding for some time, when he went to Okfuskee county and lived with Charley Coker, a member of the Snake faction. Crazy Snake was a strong advocate of the primitive life, and his death may be regarded as a factor in welding the conservative and progressive elements of the Creeks.

"Current Anthropological Literature."—Pursuant to the action taken by the councils of the American Anthropological Association and the American Folk-Lore Society at the Washington meeting in December

last, a new quarterly journal, to be known as *Current Anthropological Literature*, is to be published under the auspices of the two organizations during 1912, and all book reviews, as well as Dr Chamberlain's reviews of the periodical anthropological literature of the world, will henceforth appear therein instead of in the *American Anthropologist* and *Journal of American Folk-Lore*. The official authorization for the publication of the new quarterly is given on page 150 of this number of the *American Anthropologist*.

Archeology and Art.—The Peabody Museum of Harvard University has installed in the Museum of Fine Arts at Boston a temporary exhibition consisting of a selection from its large collection of objects from Central America. Among the objects in the exhibit perhaps the most striking are the stone sculptures from Copan, including the great seated female figure from the monumental stairway decorated with lines of hieroglyphs; a stone head showing perhaps the very best work "in the round" of the Maya sculptor; a lintel from Piedras Negras, Guatemala, with sculpture in bas-relief and at the same time one of the best examples of a Maya hieroglyphic inscription. Among the examples of work in clay are a wonderfully modeled seated figure of a woman with a second figure resting in her lap. Pottery is shown in painted, incised, and carved designs. There are black dishes with covers and handles representing jaguar heads and those of other animals, from burial vaults beneath the floors of rooms. A remarkable harmony of color is displayed on several pieces of the pottery and on a selection of sherds. The collection is rich in carved jades, showing incised design, bas-relief, and "the round," and ranging in color from black through all the tones of green to almost white. These are all from burial deposits and in many cases seem to have been broken purposely. Carved plaques and carved beads are perhaps the most noteworthy of these objects shown.

The ability of the Mayas and the people of the Isthmus in metal working is shown in the collection of gold and of gold and copper objects. Beaten masks of thin sheets of gold suggest similar Mycenæan objects. Most of the figurines were cast by the *cire perdue* method. The gold and copper bells show a variety of shapes, and the figurines present a surprising ability in metal casting. As with the jades, many of the figures show the result of fire. The skull of a peccary with a beautiful incised design and two carved shell disks show ability on other lines.

Photographs are exhibited which give some idea of the buildings of this Central American culture and many of the larger stone objects still remaining in the ruins. A reproduction of the Dresden codex illustrates

the manuscripts found in connection with this culture. Hanging frames show reproductions of the fresco painting on the walls of a temple in northern Yucatan. Spirited drawings of battle scenes and scenes of domestic life give still another side of this wonderful American civilization.

The exhibition will serve to show visitors ignorant of the field of American archeology that there was something in this country in pre-Columbian times worthy of the name of art, and the plan of the Peabody Museum might well be followed by other institutions if they would fulfill their function completely.

In the Fifty-fourth Report on the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology, for 1910-11, Prof. F. W. Putnam, honorary curator, gives the following information respecting the proposed addition to the Museum building:

"The Visiting Committee appointed by the Board of Overseers held a meeting in the Museum, on January 12, for the purpose of discussing the possibility of completing the south wing of the University Museum in order to give to the anthropological section the much needed additional room and extended facilities. After a consideration of the plans, which had been prepared under my direction, for closing the gap between our present building and the southwestern corner of the Oxford Street façade, the Committee discussed the form of a report to the Board of Overseers. It was decided that such a report should present the scope, importance, and value of the Museum in its various lines of activity with a statement of its financial condition, and should be accompanied by an appeal to the Overseers on the part of the Committee for the completion of the building at an estimated cost of \$125,000. This report was prepared and signed by the twelve members of the Committee, all of whom are graduates of the University. It was presented by the Chairman, Mr Markham, at the meeting of the Overseers on April 12, 1911."

THE Thirteenth International Congress of Anthropology and Pre-historic Archeology, which met in 1906 at Monaco, designated Dublin as the next place of meeting, but as it was found to be impossible to carry out that plan, the permanent council selected Geneva as the place of meeting of the Fourteenth Congress, and the committee of organization has assigned the first week of September, 1912, as the time of the sessions. In addition to the usual program, excursions will be made to the most important prehistoric sites in Switzerland, where excavations will be conducted in the presence of the members. Full information will be furnished by the president of the committee of organization, M. E.

Pittard, 72 Florissant; or the secretary, M. W. Deonna, 16 Boulevard des Tranchées, Geneva.

DR DAVID CHRISTISON, one of the foremost antiquaries of Scotland, died January 21 in his eighty-second year. Dr Christison was secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland for sixteen years, from 1888 to 1904; he traveled over a great part of Scotland, making plans of the prehistoric forts and minutely examining them, and the results of his investigations he contributed in many interesting papers to the Society of Antiquaries. About twenty years ago he was Rhind lecturer, and chose as the subject of his course "The Prehistoric Forts of Scotland." These lectures were published in book form. "Early Fortifications in Scotland" was another of his works. In 1867, for the benefit of his health, Dr Christison visited Argentina, on which he wrote a number of papers.

LIEUT. GEORGE T. EMMONS, U.S.N., has been made an honorary fellow of the American Museum of Natural History in recognition of his services in furnishing information in regard to the Indians of the Northwest Coast and in promoting field work in that region, and Dr George Bird Grinnell has been elected an honorary fellow in recognition of his services in the development of the Museum's department of anthropology.

AT the tenth annual meeting of the South African Association for the Advancement of Science, to be held at Port Elizabeth from July 1 to 6, Mr W. A. Way will serve as president of Section D, devoted to anthropology, ethnology, education, history, mental science, philosophy, political economy, sociology, and statistics.

THE EIGHTH SESSION of the Congrès Préhistorique de France will be held at Angoulême (Charente), August 18-24, 1912. The president of the committee of organization is Dr Henry Martin, and the general secretary Dr Marcel Baudouin, 21 rue Linné, Paris.

DR WILLIAM T. BRIGHAM, director of the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Honolulu, has been made a corresponding member of the Imperial Academy of Science, St Petersburg, and of the Senckenbergische Naturforschende Gesellschaft at Frankfurt.

PROF. GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY gave a public lecture in the University Chapel, Columbus, on the evening of March 1 by invitation of Omega Chapter of Sigma Xi of the Ohio State University, his subject being Pre-Columbian Art.

PROF. G. ELLIOT SMITH, F.R.S., has been appointed president of

the Section of Anthropology of the British Association for the Advancement of Science which is to meet at Dundee, beginning September 4th.

A COLLECTION of about 350 oil paintings of Indian subjects by George Catlin has been acquired by the American Museum of Natural History through the gift of Mr Ogden Mills, who procured them from Miss Elizabeth W. Catlin, a daughter of the artist.

To commemorate the signing of the treaty with the Creek Indians at Coleraine, Georgia, June 29, 1796, the Lyman Hall chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will place a boulder at Coleraine Landing on June 29th next.

DR ROBERT H. LOWIE, of the American Museum of Natural History, delivered an address, "An Ethnologist in the Field," before the department of natural history of the College of the City of New York on March 21.

THE Third International Congress of Archeology will be held at Rome from October 9 to 12, 1912. The general secretary of the committee is Prof. Lucio Mariani, Piazza Venezia, 11, Rome.

AN anonymous donor has undertaken to give £20,000 to the University of Cambridge, to establish a chair of genetics, to be called the Balfour professorship of genetics, in honor of Mr A. J. Balfour.

PROF. GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY, of Yale University, is installing a hall of European prehistoric archeology for the American Museum of Natural History, in New York.

PROF. ARTHUR KEITH, curator of the museum, began on February 26 a course of six lectures at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, on phases in the evolution of man.

MISS GERDA SEBBELOV has been appointed assistant curator of the section of general ethnology in the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania.

BY THE WILL of Mrs Emily Howe Hitchcock, Dartmouth College will become the possessor of M. Hitchcock's Cesnola collection of Cyprus antiquities.

BY THE WILL of the late Mrs Joseph Drexel the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania has been bequeathed the sum of \$70,000, of which \$20,000 is to be used for making casts.

MR HARLAN I. SMITH has been elected honorary curator of archeology in the American Museum of Natural History.